

AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

11 MARCH 2020

REPORT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

AVON & SOMERSET RESPONSE TO THE LAMMY REVIEW

Background

- 1.1 The Independent Chair of the Avon and Somerset Lammy Review Group, Desmond Brown, has been invited to the Panel Meeting to give a presentation on progress in the local response to recommendations of the Lammy Review. The purpose of this report is to set out the background to the Avon and Somerset approach for the benefit of Panel Members.

National Position - Lammy Review

- 2.1 The Right Honourable David Lammy MP published his independent review into the treatment of, and outcomes for, Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) individuals in the criminal justice system in September 2017. The report made 35 recommendations to help improve on fundamental principles of trust, fairness and responsibility in order to address racial disparity in the criminal justice system. The report also calls for the justice system to take significant steps to increase diversity and transparency, addressing the 'trust deficit' between BAME individuals and the justice system. The full report can be found at the following link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lammy-review-final-report>
- 2.2 The Government Race Disparity Audit (October 2017, revised March 2018) was published by the Cabinet Office alongside the Lammy Review, with a view to shining a light on differences and potential disparity in treatment of individuals across public services by publishing data held by the Government. The report can be found at the following link:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/686071/Revised_RDA_report_March_2018.pdf

Local Approach - Avon and Somerset Response

- 3.1 A joint meeting of the Bristol Manifesto for Race Equality Group and representatives of criminal justice agencies was convened in January 2018 to agree the collective approach in the local response. The Avon and Somerset Lammy Group was convened to take forward work, with membership including criminal justice agencies, Local Authority and victim service providers. Desmond Brown was appointed in May 2019 as Independent Chair to provide strategic direction and champion the approach across partner agencies in taking forward the Avon and Somerset response.

- 3.2 The group is taking forward a programme of work based around the three pillars of fairness, trust and shared responsibility. The initial focus is on reviewing data collected by partners to build a clear picture of data currently available and taking forward work to challenge discrepancies, improve recording practice and ensure that local data is consistent and robust. Whilst work is focused on CJS disproportionality, the scope of work by its nature is broad and links into important parallel work underway including work in relation to the serious violence agenda and the Representative Workforce programme.

Recommendation

- 4.1 For Panel Members to note the report and consider how they may be able to support this work through their respective roles.